

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (currently amended) A bicycle carrier for mounting to a vehicle supporting a bicycle, said carrier comprising comprising:

a vertical supporting member mountable to said vehicle;

a horizontal ~~an~~ upper bar attached to said supporting member;

a cradle fixed at a position on said upper bar to receive a ~~bicycle~~ fork crown of said bicycle, said cradle having first and second structures extending upwardly from said cradle, said first structure having first and second tines, said second structure having third and fourth tines, said cradle oriented on said upper bar such that when said supporting member is mounted on said vehicle said cradle ~~can receive a bicycle from~~ said bicycle fork crown, said bicycle fork crown positionable between said first and second tines and said third and fourth tines, said bicycle ~~suspendable~~ generally vertically; and said cradle mounted at an angle such that said cradle supports said bicycle fork crown and bicycle handlebars at an angle other than perpendicular to said bicycle.

2. (cancelled)

3. (currently amended) The bicycle carrier of claim 12, wherein said supporting member has a means of attaching to a vehicle hitch.

4. (currently amended) The bicycle carrier of claim 12, further comprising a second bar attached to said supporting member with means for securing a bicycle rear wheel.

5. (currently amended) The bicycle carrier of claim 12, wherein there is a plurality of cradles mounted on said upper bar for receiving a plurality of bicycles.

6. (cancelled)

7. (cancelled)

8. (currently amended) A vehicle mounted bicycle carrier carrying a bicycle, said carrier comprising:

a horizontal bar mountable to said vehicle, said horizontal bar having a cradle fixed on said horizontal bar at a position extending upwardly therefrom, said cradle having first and second structures extending upwardly from said cradle, each of said first and second structures having first and second tines, said cradle oriented on said horizontal bar such that said cradle ~~can~~ receives said a bicycle from a ~~said~~ bicycle fork crown, said bicycle fork crown positionable between said first and second tines on each of said first and second structures, said bicycle suspended ~~able~~ generally vertically; and said cradle mounted at an angle such that said cradle supports said bicycle fork crown and bicycle handlebars at an angle other than perpendicular to said bicycle.

9. (previously presented) The bicycle carrier of claim 8, wherein said horizontal bar is mounted to a generally vertical support member and a vehicle hitch.

10. (cancelled)

11. (previously presented) The bicycle carrier of claim 8, further comprising means for securing a rear bicycle wheel to said vehicle mounted bicycle carrier.

12. (previously presented) The bicycle carrier of claim 8, wherein said horizontal bar is mounted generally parallel or generally perpendicular to the rear of said vehicle.

13. (previously presented) The bicycle carrier of claim 8, wherein a plurality of cradles for carrying a plurality of bicycles, are mounted to said horizontal bar.

14. (cancelled)

15. (cancelled)

16. (currently amended) The bicycle carrier of claim 1 further comprising a stabilizer bar attached to said supporting member below said upper bar, said stabilizer bar positioned to stabilize a rear tire of said bicycle.

17. (previously presented) The bicycle carrier of claim 16 wherein said stabilizer bar further comprises a hook to hold said rear tire in place.

18. (previously presented) The bicycle carrier of claim 1 wherein said first and second structures are V-shaped.

19. (currently amended) A bicycle carrier for mounting to a vehicle comprising:

a vertical supporting member mountable to said vehicle;

a horizontal upper bar attached to said supporting member; and

a cradle fixed upwardly on said upper bar at an angle approximately 45 degrees to an axis of said upper bar to receive a bicycle fork crown, said cradle having a structure, said structure having first and second tines, said cradle oriented on said upper bar such that when said supporting member is mounted on said vehicle said cradle can receive a bicycle from said bicycle fork crown, said bicycle fork crown positionable between said first and second tines, said bicycle suspendable generally vertically; and said cradle mounted at an angle such that said cradle supports said bicycle fork crown and bicycle handlebars at an angle other than perpendicular to said bicycle.

20. (previously presented) The bicycle carrier of claim 19 wherein said structure is V-shaped.

21. (previously presented) The bicycle carrier of claim 8 wherein said first and second structures are V-shaped.

22. (currently amended) A vehicle mounted bicycle carrier holding a bicycle, comprising:

a horizontal bar mountable to said vehicle, said horizontal bar having a cradle extending upwardly therefrom, said cradle having a structure, said structure having first and second tines in a fixed position extending upwardly from said horizontal bar, said cradle oriented on said horizontal bar such that said cradle ~~can~~ receives a ~~bicycle from said~~ bicycle fork crown of said bicycle, said bicycle fork crown positioned ~~able~~ between said first and second tines, said bicycle suspended ~~able~~ generally vertically; and said cradle mounted at an angle such that said cradle supports said bicycle fork crown and bicycle handlebars at an angle other than perpendicular to said bicycle.